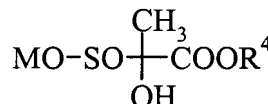


Or



wherein M is Na, K, Mg, Ca, Zn and R⁴ is CH₃ or C₂H₅.

12/15/00
3 4 5
C (Twice Amended) The mixture of a sulfinic acid compound as claimed in ~~one of~~ claims 1 to 6, or 10 with the sulfonic acid corresponding to the sulfinic acid compound or the salt thereof and with or without the corresponding sulfite.

12/15/00
3 4
C (Amended) A method of reducing a chemical compound, the method comprising contacting the compound with a sulfinic acid compound according to ~~any one~~ claims [1-10] ~~1-6 or 10~~ under conditions that permit reduction.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments are made to remove non-elected subject matter, rendering the pending claims allowable (pursuant to paragraphs 4 and 5 of the instant Office Action).

If there are any questions or comments regarding this Response or application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney as indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 25, 2000

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